REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application. All of the pending claims are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

Claims Status

Claims 1-23, 29-38, 41 and 56 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 24, 39, 45 and 51 have been amended to improve their readability. New claims 57-64 have been added. The written specification and drawings provide support for the amended and new claims. No new subject matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 1-56 under Section 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0224710 ("Koskelainen").

With respect to independent claim 24, this claim recites "the server selectively forwarding the message to the recipients that are available and storing the message for later delivery to unavailable recipients, based on the respective availability of each of the recipients." In no instance does Koskelainen teach or suggest this feature. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 24, as well as claims 25-28 by their dependency therefrom, are patentable over Koskelainen.

With respect to independent claim 39, this claim recites "program code means for displaying at the wireless mobile terminal and the networked computer the text message and an indicia of the voice message in a single displayed conversation thread." In no instance does Koskelainen teach or suggest this feature. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 39, as well as claims 40 and 42-44 by their dependency therefrom, are patentable over Koskelainen.

With respect to independent claims 45 and 51, these claims recite, respectively:

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"45. A wireless mobile terminal for operating on a wireless carrier network, comprising:

a memory for storing program code . . .

program code stored in the memory for accessing a list of message recipients stored at the server;

program code stored in the memory for presenting a user interface for selecting one or more message recipients from the list stored at the server . . . ."

"51. A networked device for operating on a wired packet network, comprising . . .

a memory for storing program code . . .

program code stored in the memory for accessing a list of message recipients stored at the server;

program code stored in the memory for presenting a user interface for selecting one or more message recipients from the list stored at the server . . . ."

In no instance does Koskelainen teach or suggest the above-quoted features. Specifically, Koskelainen does not teach or suggest a wireless mobile terminal or networked device that accesses a list of message recipients stored at a server. Furthermore, Koskelainen does not teach or suggest a wireless mobile terminal or networked device that presents a user interface for selecting message recipients from the list stored at the server. Thus, for at least the foregoing reasons, claims 45 and 51, as well as claims 46-50 and 52-55 by their respective dependency, are patentable over Koskelainen.

New Claims

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 57-64 are patentable over Koskelainen for at least the following reasons.

Independent claims 57 recites:

"A system for inter-carrier push-to-talk (PTT) messaging between wireless mobile terminals operating on a plurality of wireless carrier networks and one or more networked computers . . . comprising:

a first wireless mobile terminal, operating on a first wireless carrier network, capable of communicating using a PTT mode;

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a second wireless mobile terminal, operating on a second wireless carrier network, capable of communicating using a PTT mode;

a networked computer, operatively connected to the landline network, capable of communicating using a PTT mode;

a message server, residing outside of the first and second wireless carrier networks, for receiving PPT messages from and forwarding PTT messages to the first wireless mobile terminal, the second wireless mobile terminal and the networked computer"

Koskelainen does not teach or suggest the above features of claim 57. More particularly, Koskelainen does not teach or suggest a system for inter-carrier PTT messaging between a first and second wireless carrier network. Koskelainen's PTT messaging system teaches PTT messaging in only a single wireless carrier network. In sharp contrast, Applicants' claimed system supports PTT messaging between wireless terminals operating on different carrier networks, e.g., Verizon and Sprint. This feature is highly advantageous because unlike prior wireless PTT systems, Applicants' system allows a truly global PTT messaging system that is not confined to a single wireless carrier. A PTT message sender can reach a PTT message recipient irrespective of who their wireless service providers are. Thus, for at least the foregoing reasons, claim 57, as well as claims 58-64 by their dependency, are patentable over Koskelainen.

Dependent claim 58 is patentable over Koskelainen for the additional, independent reason that it recites a gateway between different transfer protocols used by the first and second wireless carrier network. In no instance does Koskelainen teach or suggest this additional feature.

Dependent claims 59 and 61 are patentable over Koskelainen for the additional, independent reason that they recite, respectively, proxy login functionality at the message server for transferring PTT messages to external IM and email systems. The proxy logins involve a PTT message sender's user ID, password and external service account. In no instance does Koskelainen teach or suggest these additional features.

Dependent claims 60 and 62 are patentable over Koskelainen for the additional, independent reason that they recite means for transcoding and delivering PTT voice messages to external IM and email systems, respectively, using URLs imbedded in text messages. In no instance does Koskelainen teach or suggest these additional features.

Dependent claims 60 and 62 are patentable over Koskelainen for the additional, independent reason that they recite features of a keep-alive strategy that is entirely absent from the teachings of Koskelainen. Keep-alive strategies are discussed in Applicants' specification at page 11, line 27 – page 13, line 12.
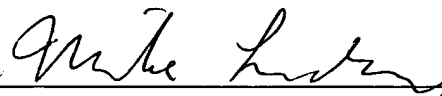
Conclusion

Each of the pending claims in this application is in condition for allowance and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application and feels that a telephone conference would be helpful to resolve any issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the 520-760-8268.

No additional fee beyond the revival fee is believed to be due with this Reply.

Respectfully submitted,

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